NEW YORK HERALD

BROADWAY AND ANN STREET. JAMES GORDON BENNETT PROPRIETOR.

All business or news letter and telegraphic despatches must be addressed New York HERALD.

AMUSEMENTS TO-MORROW EVENING

BOWERT THEATRE, Bowery.-LITTLE DICK-THE BUCKLE OF BRILLIANTS.

FIFTH AVENUE THEATRE, Twenty-fourth at .- MAN BOOTH'S THEATRE, 25d st., between 5th and 6th avs.

FOURTEENTH STREET THEATRE (Theatre Français)-ADEIENNE LE COUVERUE.

STEINWAY HALL, Fourteenth street, - GRAND NILEBON CONOREST.

WALLACE'S THEATRE, Broadway and 17th street. LINA EDWIN'S THEATRE, 720 Broadway. CAPTAIN OF THE WATCH LA SOMNAMBULA, &C.

NIBLO'S GARDEN, Broadway.-ENGLISH OPERA-

NEW YORK STADT THEATRE, 45 Bowery. -GRANE GERMAN OPERA-TROUBADOUR. GRAND OPERA HOUSE, corner of Eighth avenue and 22d st. La GRANDE DECRESS.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC, Fourteenth st. Shakspeare's

OLYMPIC THEATRE, Broadway. THE PANTO MIME OF WER WILLIE WINKIE. WOOD'S MUSEUM Broadway, corner 30th st. Perform-

GLOBE THEATRE, 728 Broadway. VARIETY ENTER-

MRS, F. B. CONWAY'S PARK THEATRE, Brooklyn.-BROOKLYN ACADEMY OF MUSIC. FANNT JANAU-

TONY PASTOR'S OPERA BOUSE, 201 Bowery. - VA-THEATRE COMIQUE, 514 Broadway. -- Comic Vocal-

SAN FRANCISCO MINSTREL HALL, 585 Breatway. KELLY & LEON'S MINSTRELS, No. 806 Broadway .-

HOOLEY'S OPERA HOUSE, Brooklyn. -- NEGRO MIN BROOKLYN OPERA HOUSE - WELCH, HUGHES WHITE'S MINSTERELS - PARTIMES ON THE LEVEE, &C.

NEW YORK CIRCUS, Fourteenth street. Schnes in AMERICAN INSTITUTE EXHIBITION. -EMPIRE

NEW YORK MUSEUM OF ANATOMY, 618 Broadway.-

DR. KAHN'S ANATOMICAL MUSEUM, 745 Broadway.

TRIPLE SHEET

CONTENTS OF TO-DAY'S BERALD.

New York, Sanday, October 23, 1870.

PAGE.

1-Advertisements.

2-Advertisements.

3-Paris: Herald Special Report of the Shuation in the Canital: Bismarck's Proposal of a Peace Pian; Eazame's Successful Sortie on the Besleging Array: Bourbak! in the Field; Increasing Condidence of the Defenders of Paris; Mantes Threatened; St. Quentin Occupied by the Prossnans; The Advance on Amiens—The Ocean Diasters: Harrowing Details of the Loss of the Steamship Cambria; The Narrative of Shipwreck as Told by the Surviving Passenger; No Hope for the Safety of the Missing Boats; The Iron Ship Hecuba Fonndered at Seat The Steamer Mariposa, with Thirty-six Souls on Board, Not Yet Heard From.

4-State and City Politios: The Opposing Political Forces Set Their Squadrons in the Feld—The Metropolitan Garrison—Sympathy With the Cuban Patriots—The St. Patrick's Alliance Association—Religious Intelligence—Proceedings in the New York Couris—Trotting at Binghanton.

5-Dress Fashions; Autumn Styles Reported from

ings in the New York Couris—Trotting at Binghanton.

5—Dress Fasnions: Antumn Styles Reported from France; What is Worn and What is Expected—The Strible Suicide—Financial Report—Suspicion of Poisoning—Marriages and Deaths—Advertisements.

6—Editorials: Leading Article, The Struggle for Empire in Europe, the Rise of a New Power—Amosement Announcements.

7—Editorials (continued from sixth page)—Telegraphic News from All Paris of the World: Duke D'Aosta, King of Spain; Pope Pius the Ninth, the Buil and the Council; Diamonds from Africa—Yaching—Personal Intelligence—Naval Intelligence—Venezuela: The Government Forces Successfu—The Last Card—Nabbed at Last—A Brute in Breeches—Fisk, and Gould in the Faterson Courts—Eusl-Fisk and Gould in the Paterson Courts-Busi-

Fisk and Gould in the Paterson Courts—Eusiness Notices,

5—Advertisements,

40—The Junet Estate: Conclusion of the Trial Before Judge Barnard—Political Intelligence—News from Washington—Little Jack Sheppard—Meeting of Milk Producers—Fire in Centre Street—The French Patriotte Fair—Base Ball—Shipping Intelligence—Advertisments,

11—Advertisements. 11—Advertisements. 12—Advertisements.

PRESIDENT GRANT has finally determined to appoint Commissioner Delano Secretary of the Interior in the place of General Cox,

SPANISH REFORMS FOR CUBA. - Some of the Madrid papers are advocating the granting of liberal reforms to Cuba, and urging the government to seek glory in that direction. While there is so large a field at home for reforms why not attend to it? The Spanish government has enough to attend to in Spain, and the day is past for its interference in Cuban

COMMISSIONEE OSEORN'S DECISION.-United States Commissioner Osborn, in releasing the prisoners brought before him on s charge of resisting the supervisor acting under the federal law, has simply decided that the United States temporary officials, under the act of Congress, have no right to make summary arrests of parties suspected of violating the law at the registry or at the polls. Beyond this the decision does not seem o curtail the authority of the deputy marshals. These officers will of course abide by the decision of the Commissioner, and will not in future attempt to exercise any arbitrary power not invested in them by law. In the exercise of their lawful authority it is not likely that they will be obstructed on election ay if they confine themselves within proper

HOTEL NOMENCLATURE. - The doubling of pames for hotels sometimes leads to awkward nishaps. We have two hotels in this city nearly similar names, to wit, the Grand Hotel and the Grand Central or Central Grand Hotel, both on Broadway. It not unfrequently asppens that the baggage of a stranger goes one house and he himself is carried to nother. In other cases a husband expects is wife or a wife her husband, and one goes ne way and the other another, until things et so mixed up that sometimes mischief not divorce suits ensues. All this trouble ould be obviated by giving each hotel i parate and distinct appellation. In the innoe we refer to it would undoubtedly be of dvantage to the entire travelling community have the "Central" wiped out of the name the "Grand," or the "Grand" out of the Contral," it don't make much difference

The Straggle for Empire in Europe-The Rise of a New Power.

The events which are now taking place in Europe are peculiarly suggestive. They carry us forward, filling the mind with strange doubts and fears regarding the future. They carry us back over the singularly tangled web of European history and bring us face to face with situations not dissimilar to the present. We feel the trath of the saying, "History repeats itself." Once again, after a period of comparative inactivity, the struggle for empire has been resumed. Once again the Popedom is in serious trouble. Once again new Powers and new leaders of men rise to the surface. And once more empire seems to have changed

its centre. Since the downfall of the Roman empire of the West-a downfall which was complete before the close of the fifth century-a contest for supremacy has been a leading feature of European history. In the course of this contest many nations have risen and fallen and many great characters have figured. Among the many great leaders whose names are associated with the ascendancy of particular nations prominence must be given to such names as Charlemagne, Otho the Great, Charles the Fifth, Louis the Fourteenth and Napoleon Bonaparte. Each of those names marks the climax of a nation's greatness and constitutes an epoch in the history of the Western world. From the fifth to near the middle of the eighth century there was no overshadowing Power in the West. The Northern barbarians, having done their terrible work, forgot their warlike habits, and settled down to enjoy the fruits of their conquests. In the person of the Exarch of Ravenna, who ruled in name of his imperial master of Constantinopie, the semblance of Roman unity and power was feebly maintained. Gradually, however, out of the debris of the fallen empire there arose a new Power. The Frankish kingdom had steadily consolidated in spite of the feeble rule of the descendants of Clovis. In the persons of Charles Martel and his valiant son Pepin, the mayors of the palace had become more mighty than the monarchs; and for services rendered the Holy See Pope Stephen the Second sanctioned the deposition of Childeric, the last of the long-haired Morovingians, and in the Church of St. Denys, with much solemn ceremony, placed the crown of Childeric on the head of Pepin. It was not, however, until the following reign that the defunct empire of the West was formally re-established. The Holy See was again in trouble. Charlemagne crossed the Alps, delivered the Pope from his enemies, and, on the festival of Christmas, the last year of the eighth century, in the Church of St. Peter, Leo the Third placed upon his head a precious crown and hailed him Emperor of the Romans. The large donation of territory which had been made to the Chair of St. Peter by Pepin was confirmed; and while the Roman empire was thus solemply restored the Bishop of Rome took his place for the first time among the temporal rulers of the world. In those donations of territory by Pepin and Charlemagne we see the foundation of that temporal power which in recent years has been so fruitful a source of disturbance, and which within the last few weeks it has been our privilege or our misfortune to see disappear. In the course of his long reign of forty-six years Charlemagne destroyed the Lombard kingdom, waged succossful war against the Saracens in Spain and the Huns in Pannonia, and, although not without much of what seems to us unnecessary cruelty, effectually crushed his Saxon neighbors in the North. It was his privilege to restore the unity and to extend the limits of the Roman empire of the West. His rule extended from the North Sea to the Mediterranean, and from the Atlantic and the Ebro in Spain to the Raab and the mouth of the Oder. In his own day and generation Charlemagne stood peerless and alone. His figure towers up like a beacon upon a waste or a rock in the broad ocean. His sceptre, as one has well said. was as the bow of Ulysses, which could not be

drawn by any weaker hand. When the great monarch died died too his magnificent empire. Charlemagne died in 814. His vast dominions, according to the custom of the times, were divided among his sons and heirs. But his descendants held the reins with a feeble grasp. The epithets of the Bard, the Stammerer, the Fat and the Simple, revealed at once the characters of the men and the estimation in which they were held. The mighty fabric fell, and the fall was great. Europe was chaos once more. Each successive generation was feebler than its predecessor; and from the abdication of Charles the Fat to the accession of Otho the First, a period of seventyfour years, the imperial throne may be considered vacant, or rather the empire defanct. In the year 936 Otho the First, at the age of fourteen, ascended the throne of Germany left vacant by the death of his father, Henry, the Fowler. The reign of the first Otho, which lasted thirty-six years, marked a new epoch in the history of Europe. His reign was turbulent in the extreme. Disturbed by enemies within his kingdom and beset by foes without, he fought with and overcame them all. The internal affairs of the State being arranged he applied himself to his foreign foes. The Slavic tribes were driven back behind the Oder and the Danes were compelled to retire within their natural limits beyond the Eider. For services rendered to his brother-in-law, Louis of France, he was permitted to annex to his dominions the Duchy of Lorraine. Invited by the Pope, like his predecessor, Charlemagne, to deliver him from his enemies, he led his victorious army across the Alps. He was successively proclaimed King of the Lombards and King of Italy, and finally, from the hands of Pone John the Twelfth, he received the imperial crown. Thus was renewed the compact between the Pope and the Cæsar, and thus was established that German or Holy Roman empire which. with varying fortune, lasted until the times of the first Napoleon. The second restoration was in many respects more successful than the first. The empire remained strong under three successive Othos, under their kinsman Henry, and under the early Franconian Casars. In 1056 died Henry the Third, the most promising of all the German Caesars; and his successor, Henry the Fourth, found himself weak

in the hands of the mightiest monk who ever

served the papacy. The accession of Hilde-

the history of the struggle for power in Europe. The new era, which lasted long, was preeminently the era of Papal triumph. For the first time since the conversion of the Roman empire-for the first time since the alliance of Church and State-the Supreme Pontiff was more potent than the Cæsar.

Over that long interval which reaches down

to the Refermation and the times of Charles the Fifth, the last of the great Emperors of the West, it would be delightful to lingeran interval which witnessed the humiliation as well as the triumph of the Papacy, which saw Popes captive at Avignon and rival Popes hurling against each other their mimic thunders, as well as proud Emperors grovelling in the dust and pleading for Papal mercy, and during which the States system of Europe slowly but effectually developed itself-but our present purpose renders this impossible. In the order of time the next great master of Europe was Charles the Fifth. Charles, it would seem, was born under a happy star. The rise of numerous powerful States all over Europe made it more difficult than ever for any one to obtain the mastery of all the others. France had become a Power of the first rank. So had England. So had Spain. The empire, for some generations, had been more nominal than real. French and English Kings, rather than German or Roman Emperors, had become the terror of the Papacy. But fortune was on the side of Charles from his birth, and under him the empire revived much of its ancient splendor and all its ancient power. The Netherlands, Spain and her colonies, the Austrian territories and all that belonged to the House of Hapsburg, fell to him by right of inheritance. In 1520 he was chosen to succeed his grandfather, Maximilian, as Emperor of Germany. The conquest of Mexico and Peru made him virtually the master of two continents. No such power had been possessed by one man since the days of Charlemagne. Among the princes of Europe there were but two that could be regarded as his rivals. But Henry VIII. found sufficient occupation at home; and the battle of Pavia, 1525, in which Francis I. was defeated and made prisoner, left Charles master of the situation. Through the agency of the Constable de Bourbon he humbled and imprisoned the Pope, and Sultan Solyman the Magnificent felt and confessed the weight of his arms. In 1530 Charles and the Pope were reconciled, and Clement VII. placed on his head the imperial crown, just seven hundred and thirty-one years after it had been placed on the head of his great namesake by Leo III. Then, for the last time, did Pope and Cæsar conspire and enter into a compact against the liberties of mankind. Charles was undoubtedly a great monarch; but his reign was illustrious rather than successful. He fought against, not for, progress. As he advanced in years his difficulties multiplied. His life purpose was a failure. The age of Michael Angelo, Ariosto and Raphael, of Wolsey and Cromwell, of Luther and Melancthon, was not to be held under the heel of any despot. The love of liberty had begun to be more potent than the fear of kings; and so it was that Charles, having partitioned his dominions, filled with mortification and disgust, retired to reflect on the past and prepare for the future amid the seclusion and pious surroundings of the Monastery of Yuste. After the death of Charles power passed

first to Spain and then to France. In the times of Louis XIII. and Louis XIV., and under the guidance of two such ministers as Richelien and Mazarin. France reached the climax of her ambition and of her glory. Louis XIV. was ambitious of universal empire; and, although he was not successful in realizing the object of his ambition, he became certainly the mightiest monarch of his time. Nothing but an armed coalition of all the Powers prevented him from bringing the whole Continent under his sway. His reign was illustrious beyond that of any of his predecessors. His court became the model court of Europe; great generals led his armles; great statesmen directed his councils, and science, art and letters flourished under his patronage. But his costly wars and the extravagance of his court made France comparatively weak in the two succeeding reigns. and sowed the seeds which in 1789 and subsequent years brought forth such a harvest of desolation. The memory of Louis is badly stained by his revocation of the edict of Nantes and by the brutal persecution of his Protestant subjects. How the French recovered power under the first Napoleon every reader knows. In that great but bad man all the genins of Julius Casar and all the genius of Charlemagne seem to have been united. His genius, in fact, was loftier, more comprehensive and more brilliant than that of either. Never before had such dash and daring been exhibited on the battle field. Never before was there such wisdom, such energy, such decision in council. It was his proud boast that he had taken up the long disused sceptre of Charlemagne and that he had been born for universal empire. At no time in the history of the world, before or since, was absolute and universal empire so near the grasp of one man. Much as he did to break down the barriers and prejudices of the past, his mission, after all, was that of an angel of destruction. In due time he fell, and the mighty but ill-cemented structure which he had reared crumbled to pieces. In our day France has once again recovered her greatness and once again fallen. In the pride of her heart she has once more sinned, and once more the handwriting on the wall has been interpreted by painful fact. Weighed in the balance she has been found wanting. This time she has been struck down, not by British gold or British perseverance, but by the vigorous blows of her German neighbor. Under the influence of Prussia-a comparatively new State-Germany has found that cohesion and unity the want of which had hitherto been her curse. United she has risen with a might and majesty which have filled the world with amazement; and by a series of well dealt blows she has smitten her wouldbe destroyer to the earth. To-day France lies bleeding and weak, and there is no Power in Europe bold enough to bid the triumphant conqueror "Halt." The sudden uprise of Germany, under the leadership of Prussia, is the most significant fact of these

Gregory the Seventh, marks another epoch in Now it has virtually swelled into the Empire of Germany. It is a long leap from Frederick William of 1870 to Frederick, cousin of Rudolf, of Hapsburg, and first hereditary Bargraf of Nürnberg, 1273; but it must be admitted that the Hohenzollerns have well deserved success. Germany is now the pivotal or rather dominant Power of Europe. It is the latest seat of empire in the Old World. Let us hope that Germany will not abuse her power.

> The Military Situation in France. The most important announcement that we have from the seat of war in France is that Marshal Bazaine, with his whole army, variously estimated as numbering from sixty thousand to eighty thousand men, had made a successful sortie from Metz, crushing the enemy, consisting of twenty-six battalions of infantry and two regiments of cavalry, and capturing a considerable quantity of stores and war munitions. The announcement emanates officially from the seat of government at Tours, where there was great rejoicing over such favorable news. On the other hand deserters from the garrison are said to be responsible for the improbable report that Bazaine is dead and Canrobert in command. The Prussians continue to threaten other important towns in France, At last counts two columns were marching on Amions, but complete preparations had been made for its defence. The citizens of Lyons were expecting an attack and were equally sanguine of successfully resisting it. Prussians, with twenty thousand men and forty cannon, had surrounded Chartres. Vernon had been cannonaded from across the river without any practical result. The French garrison in Verdun have thus far defeated all attempts to take it, and made several sorties, during which they inundated the environs of the town. The armistice at Mézières was ended and the Prussians were awaiting reinforcements before beginning the bombardment. The occupation of St. Quentin by the Prussians is confirmed. General Bourbaki had commenced operations with his Army of the North. Our special cable reports from Paris give interesting accounts of the situation in the capital, which is said to be so completely fortified that it cannot possibly be taken by assault. Peace negotiations continued, and the arrangement of an armistice to allow the election and meet-

ing of the new French Parliament was momen-THE DUKE OF AOSTA AND THE SPANISH THRONE.-Spain, it seems, is determined to have a king. It is now officially announced that the vacant throne has been offered to and accepted by Prince Amadeus Ferdinand Marie, Duke of Aosta, the second son of King Victor Emanuel. This Prince was born May 30, 1845, and is now, consequently, in twenty-sixth year. The House of Savoy. like the House of Hobenzollern, is now in favor. A united Italy for himself and Spain for his son, why should not Victor Emanuel be proud? Will it work? is a question which many will ask. If Spain must have a king we know no good reason why it should not work. A father in Italy and a son in Spain, or one brother on the Spanish throne and another brother on the Italian throne, why should not the two peninsulas shake hands and be friends? If this arrangement can be carried out it will pave the way for the final fusion of the Latin races. But Napoleonwhere is he? Alas, poer Yorick!

THE LOSS OF THE CAMBRIA. - There is now no longer any reason to doubt that the Cambria, of the Anchor line, has been lost, Awful as the disaster now appears, it will be much more awful if poor but fortunate John McGartland is the only survivor. At the latest nothing has been heard of the missing boats. the ill-fated Hibernia repeated. It is sad to think of the crowd of passengers who have in all likelihood perished. The moral of this other sad story seems to be that the Anchor line proprietors must build stronger vessels if they would persist in rounding the northern shores of Ireland. Of all the steamship lines their route is the most difficult. No fault can be found with this company. Its ships are good; its officers are the very best. If they have lost ships other lines have lost ships as well. The Cunard is the only line which has not lost a single vessel. The misfortunes of the Anchor line are traceable mainly to the difficulties which they are compelled to encounter in their northern passage to and from the Firth of Clyde. Than Captain Cunningham no more brave or skilful commander guided ship across the Atlantic.

THE IRISH LEGION IN FRANCE.-We are not surprised to hear that the Irish Legion, which was raised to assist the French, has already won laurels for itself. In the actions before Orleans, where it received its first "baptism of fire," the Legion fought with distinguished gallantry and rendered signal service to the cause of France. The charges of the Irishmen, most of whom are young men from Dublin and vicinity, carried all before them, and the Legion has been publicly thanked for its valor and success. We suppose that after peace shall have been restored and the French republic firmly established, the Irishmen will expect the Frenchmen to reciprocate by helping them to whip the English and organize a republic of their own in Ireland. But if our Celtic friends will only wait a little longer they may see Great Britain a republic, and then, as perhaps, their dream will be so far realized to make them satisfied with the compromise.

SCOTCH PRESBYTERIANS TURNING EPISCO-PALIANS.—The organ of the Free Church of Scotland (the Monthly Record) announces with alarm that there is a growing tendency among the young people in Scotland to leave the Presbyterian for the Episcopal Church, which it regards as the half-way station to Rome. This is certainly a very curious movement among the old stiff-necked, billeus and punctilious Scotch Presbyterians. And whatever course such a class of rigid religionists undertake to pursue, it will, no doubt, be carried out with true Scotch obstinacy and firmness. When a Scotch Presbyterian does anything in a radical religious way you may look out for a revolution or a moral earthquake.

DIAMONDS of immense value, "extraordinary gems," as we are told by the cable, continue to pour into Europe from Africa. The original times. One hundred and seventy years ago African diamond, a very valuable article also, brand to the Papal throne, under the title of the Prussian kingdom had not begun to exist. | was tided towards the American Continent,

Thanksgiving Day, · In view of our obligations of gratitude for Divine mercies and favors, and "whereas the people of the United States, during the year now about to end, have special cause to be thankful for general prosperity, abundant harvests, exemption from pestilence, foreign war and civil strife," the President has recommended Thursday, the 24th day of November

next, as a day of general thanksgiving for the bounty of God during the year, and of supplications for the continuance of his blessings. What a volume of good and great things vouchsafed to us as a people are embedied in the President's brief recapitulation! "General prosperity." Yes, and there is nothing like it now and no precedent for it in the prosperity of any other people. "Abundant harvests." The aggregate this year of each and all the essential crops of the country, notwithstanding the long and widely extended drought, is really wonderful, and the quality is first rate. "Exemption from pestilence." True, and considering the vast extent of the republic and its great varieties of climate, and its exposures to contagious epidemics, this general exemption is very remarkable. Likewise is our exemption from destructive earthquakes, and considering the late extensive shake, we are disappointed in this omission from the proclamation. Exemption from "foreign war and civil strife." How fortunate our condition contrasted with the fearful sufferings of France,

and how beautiful, from the Potomac to the

Rio Grande, the abounding fruits of internal

horrors of civil war! The general observance

of a day of thanksgiving, then, North, South,

East and West, by the people of the United

States-thank God!-was never more appropri-

ate than in the recognition of our good fortunes

as a people for the year 1879. Let the day,

then, be universally observed throughout the

Union, and let not the calls of charity at home

or from over the sea be forgotten in the pre-

parations for the festival.

Dress Fashions for Autumn

Each one of the four seasons of the year exerts its own peculiar influence on mankind universally, despite the local troubles or the isolated quarrels or individual suffering of humanity. People are now being toned down by the sombre seriousness of autumn towards a calm anticipation of the coming severities of winter. The "sear and yellow leaf," visible on all sides, from the centre of the Park to the most retired nook of the cosiest glen of the mountain fringes, speaks of the inevitable finale-of the evanescence of the sparkle of the summer. So it is to a certain degree with the mundane matter of dress, as will be seen by our special report of the latest fashion styles published to-day. The letter is dated at Treport, on the coast of Normandy. Paris remained closed; so the devotees of fashion congregated at this little place. Almost the latest flutter of the wavy muslins of summer were to be seen here. Winter colors were "coming in." Velvets, cashmeres, heavy silks and coat-shaped casaques were in vogue. Llama and Algerian satin wool are even now worn over velvet petticoats. Jackets, tunics, hats and robes have been revolutionized almost completely. We must refer our fair and fashionable readers to the learned expose of our special writer for the full particulars of this grand movement, as well as of its more immediate consequences in Europe, from which part of the world the fashion goddess will soon emigrate to New York.

Nilsson.-This exquisite artist, after a most extraordinary success in Philadelphia and Baltimore, will visit us again at Steinway Hall to-morrow evening. It is said that the receipts at her concerts for the brief season at these two provincial cities amounted to over last concert in Philadelphia was over six thousand dollars-something unprecedented in the annals of that town, or indeed in the history of concert singers anywhere. Nilsson and her acceptable company, including Brignoti and Vieuxtemps and Miss Cary, will be heartily welcomed here, returning as they are crowned by unexceptionable triumphs in the provinces. Brilliant as Nilsson's first season was in this city, her second will probably exceed it, for the public are eager for more of that delicious voice, that graceful form and sweet face of beauty which charmed them as with a spell.

THE ECCMENICAL COUNCIL has been indefinitely postponed by the Pope, in consequence of the occupation of Rome and the Papal States by the Italian government and the uncertainty of the temporal habitat of the Holy Father. He has his dogma of infallibility, but since its proclamation he has been truly unfortunate. His late most powerful friends are in exile, and he is himself as an exile in his own dominions, of which he has been despoiled. Still we think that this loss of his temporal kingdom is "a blessing in disguise," and that in good time it will so be made manifest to the Pope and the Church.

THE VENEZUELA REVOLUTION. - Success, which appeared to flow in favor of the insurgents in Venezuela, headed by Guzman Blanco, one month ago, now seems to run in the opposite direction. In several battles which were fought recently the government troops, under the lead of General Hernandez, were victorious. Blanco is losing ground.

THE "WAR OF THE RACES" in South Carolina did not end with the rebellion, but occasionally bursts forth with its wonted fury. The last conflict between the blacks and whites in the Palmetto State occurred in Laurens county on Wednesday last, when five white men and three negroes were killed and several others severely wounded. As we are assured that politics had nothing to do with this riot we must infer that it is the outcropping of the old spirit of antagonism between the races which, unfortunately, was not stamped out with the abolition of slavery.

RED RIVER KNOC NG AT THE DOOR. -The slight taste of democratic institutions enjoyed by the people of Red River during their insurrection only increased their desire for selfgovernment. Becoming restive under British dominion and Canadian tyranny, they have memorialized President Grant to use his intercession with the Queen to permit the peaceful annexation of their country to the United States,

Religion and Religious Sects in the United

Father Hecker, the Superior of the Comnunity of Paulists in this city, took up a very interesting subject in his lecture last Tuesday at the Academy of Music, Brooklyn, on "The Religious Condition of the Country." From his standpoint as a Catholic it was treated in a liberal and comprehensive mamer. He argued, with much truth, that religion among the Protestant sects, and particularly in New England, had lost its vitality and hal run into rationalism and scepticism. While tiese sects still maintain the forms and pretend o hold to the creeds of former times they virtually ignore the faith and repudlate the detrines. "Not one man or woman in ten," he renarked. would be willing to make active faitl on the five points of Calvinism, which was to religion of the Puritan fathers-in a word they had turned clean round the circle, so that the religion of the people there to-day was n entire subversion of Christianity as held bytheir forefathers." The truth of these remarks must be apparent to every observing an inquiring mind. Father Hecker quoted Dr. Bellows and other preachers of the same stany in support of his argument; but Dr. Bellow is hardly a fair representative of the relgious belief, or rather unbelief, of New England. He is a Unitarian, and although there are a great many of that sect the greates part of the New Englanders prefer to belon; to the Independents and other so-called Trinitarian sects of the old Calvinist school. Henry Ward Beecher is more the representative o peace compared with our late experience of the the religious sentiment of New England at the present time. There is, however, little difference between them. Neither, as we understand it, believe in the Godhead and sacrificial atonement of Christ or in His divinity, except in some such poetic sense as Renan does. They profess to preach the gospel and call Christ the Saviour, but in a moral and figurative sense only. The old Puritan belief is, as Mr. Hecker remarked, utterly subverted in New England, and through New England influence very much destroyed throughout the United States. He summed up the religious condition there in a few graphic words :-'Unitarianism had got rid of Christ by denying His divinity; Universalism had got rid of hell by denying its existence, and Spiritualism had got rid of heaven by substituting something for it." The two irresistible tendencies at work is

the Christian world, this able lecturer ob served, is to Catholicism on one hand and to rationalism on the other. These are more apparent in this country, because here religion has a fair and free field, and because there is nothing to obstruct it in its natural and logical consequence. And what is the consequence of the subverted faith of the Puritan fathers-of those men and women "who loved religion above all things and were ready to sacrifice everything for the freedom of carrying out their religious ideas?' In the first place, we see the Catholic Church becoming stronger and spreading further every day. The piously inclined cannot feed upon the husks of mere formality and rationalism. They cannot endure the insincerity of preachers and congregations professing the old orthodox Christianity of the Puritan fathers while no more believing it than Renan or Strauss. Faith to them is spiritual life and salvation, and they fly to the Catholic Church to find it there. Herein lies the secret of the growth of that Church in this free country, where all churches and sects are on the same footing and where there is an ample field for their

It is not within the province of an independ-

ent journal that holds the scales impartially for all to argue for or against one religious body or another. We simply state facts and reflect as in a mirror the movements of the times. It cannot be denied, however, that since the Nev England Churches and their offsprings in other parts of the United States have cut loose from the old faith and have run into rationalism, Universalism and modern Spiritualism, the morals of the people have not been improved. The marriage tie, for example, as Father Hecker properly remarked, has been loosened. In Connecticut there is about one divorce for every eight Protestant families, and it is not much better in Massachusetts and other New England States. The family is the foundation of the social fabric; yet see how it is undermined through the laxity of morals and want of religious influence over the people. Then, again, the decrease of births is so great, from a like cause mainly, that there would be danger of the New Englanders dying out if the popula tion were not kept up by foreigners. True we build gorgeous temples of religion, and the liberality and taste displayed by the American people in this is really remarkable. It is something we may well be proud of, and it shows to the world how religious institutions can be maintained and flourish without the support of the State and by the voluntary principle. Nor do we forget that our Churches, however much they may have fallen from the old faith and have become more lax in principle, have still some moral and restraining influence. But it is evident, as we have said, that the Protestant sects, especially those of the New England type, are losing their hold and usefulness among the people from the want of faith, and that the Catholic Church is gaining ground because it maintains its faith and is the refuge of those who are piously

VICTOR HUGO, we are sorry to hear, has declined to "stimulate" the French provinces in a stumping campaign in behalf of the republic. No wonder. He exhausted himself in that tremendous edict against the Germans of blood and thunder, comets, earthquakes and volcanic eruptions in defence of

RELIGIOUS CONFERENCES IN NEW YORK -During the past week the American Church Missionary Society (Episcopalian) has held its anniversary, and the National Unitarian Conference has met in New York. The efforts of the Missionary Society, according to the eleventh annual report, were last year crowned with the most gratifying results. The total receipts for the year were \$64,564 80. Sixty-one missionaries had been commissioned, eleven of them being reappointed. National Unitarian Conference, after three days of animated discussion between the oldfashioned conservative Unitarians and the